

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

The non-final Office Action of May 16, 2007 has been reviewed and these remarks are responsive thereto. Applicants note that the undersigned is new counsel of record pursuant to the Power of Attorney filed August 30, 2007. Claims 1, 3, 7, 9, 11-14, and 20 have been amended, claims 6 and 21-24 have been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer, and new claims 25-30 have been added. No new matter has been added. Claims 1, 3, 7, 9, 11-14, 20, and 25-30 thus remain pending in this application. Reconsideration and allowance of the instant application are respectfully requested.

Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 1, 3, 7, 9, and 11-14 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,005,601 (Ohkura) in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,583,833 (Capps), and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 4,396,294 (Yoshida). Applicants traverse this rejection for at least the following reasons.

Independent claim 1 has been amended to recite, “displaying hour and minute sliders, each slider having a movable slide knob and two ends,” and “receiving user input corresponding to a drag of one of the movable slide knobs to a new position in between the slider’s ends.” By contrast, none of the cited references teach or suggest a slider with movable slide knobs. The Office Action on page 2 characterizes item 100X2 in FIG. 10 of Ohkura as a “movable slide knob.” Applicants disagree with this characterization. First, Applicants note that Ohkura does not refer to this item as a slider or slide knob, but consistently refers to this item as a “cursor” or “cursor area.” (See, e.g., col. 11, lines 18-21) In fact, nowhere in Ohkura’s disclosure are the terms “slide”, “slider”, “drag”, or “pull” ever mentioned. Rather, the technique Ohkura discloses in FIGS. 6, 10, 11, and 17, requires the user the click, or press down, in the cursor area to set the time or date. Additionally, Ohkura’s selected values cannot be dragged or pulled, so the user must click on a different displayed value in order to change the time or date. As an example, Ohkura describes at col. 9, lines 54-60 (in reference to FIG. 11B), that if a user wishes to move the selection from the top item of the display to the bottom item, the user must depress the down-button switch six times. As described in the instant specification, this sort of repetitive clicking described in Ohkura is unnecessary when hour and minute sliders with movable slider knobs are

used. Thus, Ohkura's cursor area 100X2 is not a movable slider knob, nor does Ohkura support dragging or pulling items in its displayed time / date range. Therefore, Ohkura does not teach or suggest, "displaying hour and minute sliders, each slider having a movable slide knob and two ends," or "receiving user input corresponding to a drag of one of the movable slide knobs to a new position in between the slider's ends," as recited in amended claim 1.

Neither Capps nor Yoshida cures this deficiency of Ohkura, in that neither of these additional references teaches or suggests, "displaying hour and minute sliders, each slider having a movable slide knob and two ends," and "receiving user input corresponding to a drag of one of the movable slide knobs to a new position in between the slider's ends." Accordingly, neither Ohkura nor Capps nor Yoshida, alone or in combination, teaches or suggests every feature of amended claim 1. As such, claim 1 is not obvious in view of the cited art.

Independent claims 3, 7, and 9 have also been amended to recite displaying "hour and minute sliders" having movable slide knobs and ends, and receiving "user input corresponding to a drag of one of the movable slide knobs." Therefore, for similar reasons to those discussed above regarding claim 1, amended claims 3, 7, and 9 are not obvious in view of the cited references. Amended dependent claims 11-14 and 20 are not obvious in view of the cited references for at least the same reasons as their respective base claims, as well as based on the additional features recited therein.

New Claims

Applicant has added new dependent claims 25-30 to clarify and more fully claim the invention. No new matter has been added. Applicant submit that each new claim 25-30 is allowable for at least the same reasons as its respective base claim, as well as based on the additional features recited therein.

Specifically, claims 25 and 28 each recite, "wherein the movable slide knob of the minute slider is draggable in five-minute increments," claims 26 and 29 each recite "wherein the only numerical values displayed on each slider are values displayed on the slider's ends and the value displayed on the movable slider knob," and claims 27 and 30, "wherein the electronic program guide data corresponds to television program listings." None of the cited references discloses

any of the additional features recited in claims 25-30. Accordingly, Applicants submit that each of these new claims is allowable for at least these additional reasons.

CONCLUSION

Based on the foregoing, Applicants respectfully submit that the application is in condition for allowance and a Notice to that effect is earnestly solicited. Should the Examiner believe that anything further is desirable in order to place the application in even better form for allowance, the Examiner is respectfully urged to contact Applicants' undersigned representative at the below-listed number.

Respectfully submitted,
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Dated: November 16, 2007

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